

Submitted Testimony
In Support of Governor's Bill S. B. 838
An Act Establishing a Fund For Bioscience Innovation
Thursday, February 28, 2013

My name is Lawrence Acquarulo. I am President and CEO of Foster Corporation, located at 45 Ridge Road, in Putnam, CT. I am writing today to give my support of Governor Malloy's Bill S. B. 838: **An Act Establishing a Fund for Bioscience Innovation**.

Foster Corporation has 64 employees in Connecticut and produces sophisticated plastic compounds used in the manufacturing of medical devices. For over two decades, Foster Corporation has been a leading supplier of custom compounds, including colors, for minimally invasive devices, blending medical polymers with performance additives, radiopaque fillers and other specialty polymers, to achieve properties specific to each device.

Delivery Science, a business unit of Foster, provides hot melt extrusion blending in a cGMP clean room. Delivery Science provides contract development and manufacturing support from start-up, through manufacturing, to top tier companies in pharmaceutical, combination medical device, and nutritional markets. Services include blending active pharmaceutical ingredients for oral, implantable, subcutaneous, transmucosal or transdermal dose forms. Finished forms of custom blended materials include pellets, powder, fiber, and film.

Foster's abilities and cutting edge technology is credited to the high caliper of employee resources which generates innovative new ideas.

This legislation, Bill S. B. 838, is important to the State of Connecticut, to promote the medical device industry, create new jobs and attract and retain top technical employees. It greatly would help startup and small biomedical companies, with innovative new ideas, for commercialized in our state, which has great potential for growth.

As a member on the BEACON Board of Directors, a trade association in Connecticut that represents the medical device community, I whole heartedly give my support to this legislation.

Best regards,

Lawrence Acquarulofix
Lawrence Acquarulo



STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

Kevin Lembo State Comptroller 55 ELM STREET HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1775

Martha Carlson
Deputy Comptroller

Written Testimony Comptroller Kevin Lembo February 28, 2013

Concerning RB 6469 AAC Changes to the Annual Report of the Department of Economic and Community Development

Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone, Senator Frantz and Representative Lavielle:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Raised Bill 6469 An Act Concerning Changes to the Annual Report of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

The bill is designed to update and streamline DECD's annual reporting requirements. Over the past two years, under the leadership of Commissioner Smith, the agency has been a tireless and aggressive advocate for economic development and business expansion in this state. Reducing the administrative burden of producing the agency's annual report will allow them to dedicate more resources to their core functions and I support their efforts.

However, the bill removes the requirement that DECD report the number of full and part-time jobs at a company receiving economic assistance, both prior to the assistance being granted and after. It also eliminates a requirement for DECD to report the average wage of the jobs at the recipient company. These reporting measures are key indicators of the success of our economic development efforts. Our state is struggling to come out of the great recession, our unemployment rate remains stubbornly high and we continue to struggle with budget challenges. In this environment it is important, now more than ever, to ensure taxpayers' dollars are spent in a strategic, productive way. These reporting requirements help build a larger analysis to determine if the state is directing its resources in a productive manner with strong results.

While I am a strong supporter of greater transparency in government, I do also support creating greater government efficiency and understand that streamlining some of DECD's reporting requirements is an effort to this end. But I think there is more to be lost than gained by removing this specific information and respectfully suggest the job and wage data continue to be required in the DECD annual report.

Thank you for your consideration.